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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,258	02/12/2004	Eiji Kikuchi	021091A	4158

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EXAMINER

PAUMEN, GARY F

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

EF

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/776,258

Applicant(s)

KIKUCHI, EIJI

Examiner

Gary F Paumen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 March 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/252,094.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Attachment</u> |

Claims 4-8 are objected to because of the following informalities: they contain various instances of poor wording. For instance, in claim 4, line 2, "slot having such a mode that the" should be – slots each having a --; line 3, "right" should be deleted; line 4, "to define the right sectional shape of an opening" should be deleted; line 8, " in" should be – of --; line 9, "the" should be – an --; penultimate line "opening portion" should be deleted; last line, "supports an" should be – supports the --. Each of the claims must be reviewed and corrected. Also in claim 4, both the engaging projection and the opening wall are recited as engaging and supporting an engaging portion of an engaging lever of an inserted plug. This is confusing. Appropriate correction is required.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamarauskas et al 6609929 in view of Slack et al 6736680 and Wu 6447340.

Kamarauskas et al discloses plug loading slots 14, engaging projections (unnumbered) in each slot 14 for latching an engaging lever of an inserted plug, contact pieces 42 and shield plate 12. The engaging projections are not shown as being part of the opening wall, and the contact pieces are not at varying distances with respect to the cavity openings. Slack et al discloses (see attachment) engaging projections which are part of the opening wall, and to form the engaging projections of Kamarauskas et al in

this way thus would have been obvious, to better prevent plug removal. Wu discloses horizontal contacts 30,32 which are spaced at varying distances from the cavity opening, and to form the contacts of Kamarauskas et al in this way thus would have been obvious, for safety purposes.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamarauskas et al in view of Slack et al and Wu as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Hung et al 6264501.

Kamarauskas et al in view of Wu substantially discloses the claimed invention, except for the plug loading slots being colored separately. Hung et al discloses connectors being labeled with different colors, and to color the plug loading slots of Kamarauskas et al with different colors thus would have been obvious, to prevent insertion of incorrect plugs.

Applicant's arguments filed March 15, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Slack et al clearly shows an opening wall of the plug loading slot as having engaging projections.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

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extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary F Paumen whose telephone number is 571-272-2013. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800, ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner

gfp



US006736680B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Slack et al.

(10) Patent No.: **US 6,736,680 B2**
(45) Date of Patent: **May 18, 2004**

(54) **MODULAR JACK ASSEMBLY FOR
ETHERNET APPLICATIONS**

(75) Inventors: Victor E. Slack, Lewisville, NC (US);
Eric C. Laurer, Clemmons, NC (US)

(73) Assignee: Tyco Electronics Corporation,
Middletown, PA (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this
patent is extended or adjusted under 35
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 10/196,302

(22) Filed: Jul. 16, 2002

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2004/0014361 A1 Jan. 22, 2004

(51) Int. Cl.⁷ H01R 24/00

(52) U.S. Cl. 439/676; 439/620

(58) Field of Search 439/620, 676,
439/76.1

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,531,612 A	7/1996	Goodall et al.	439/541.5
5,736,910 A *	4/1998	Townsend et al.	333/181
6,227,911 B1	5/2001	Boutros et al.	439/620
6,305,987 B1 *	10/2001	Crane, Jr. et al.	439/676

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Ross Gushi

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An electrical connector assembly is shown which includes both full shielding and signal conditioning. The assembly includes a front housing portion in the form of a modular jack, and a rear housing portion which forms a recessed area or "well" for receiving the components for signal conditioning. The components are mounted on a printed circuit board, and placed in the recessed area. The housings are aligned and locked together.

25 Claims, 14 Drawing Sheets

